



Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kevin Segalla and I represent CFC with over 2,000 members around the State. I am here today to express my support for SB904 - the creation of a task force to study the film tax credit. I think it is vitally important to make sure that programs such as this are doing what they were intended to for the state - stimulating the economy and creating new jobs. CFC feels strongly that this program has produced excellent results and we are continuing to grow this new industry in the way the Legislature had initially hoped.

Over the past year, DECD examined all of the tax credit programs and stated unequivocally that this program more than pays for itself and creates much needed jobs in the state. Transferability has worked very well in Connecticut and many other states, and is the most efficient way to incentivize the industry. The DECD study really just scratched the surface of the economic benefits this state sees through the tax credit program. We believe the positive benefits in jobs, economic growth, and new tax revenues, are actually much greater. The creation of a task force will only reinforce the previous findings about this program and reinforce understanding of its benefits.

At CFC, we fully understand the need for the state to find savings wherever it can. We feel that taking a more comprehensive look at these credits will enable us to find efficiencies that won't decimate the program, but which will actually enhance its effectiveness for the state. We look forward to working with this task force in examining at what currently works best and how we can streamline the program.

We understand that the Governor's intention in his budget proposal is to make sure that the program works to build permanent companies here in Connecticut and create jobs. I think the Governor truly believes in this program and would like to see it continue as long as it is benefiting and growing Connecticut companies. We share this view and feel that the task force will help us come up with a proposal that actually gains new efficiencies without devastating the program.

Thank you for your time in considering my testimony and we look forward to working with you and the task force to make this program even better for the State of Connecticut.